



## ASX Announcement

For immediate release

Monday 26 November 2012

### **Bluechiip granted *Tagging Methods and Apparatus* patent in Europe**

Bluechiip Limited [ASX: BCT] today announced the recent granting of a patent in Europe titled *Tagging Methods and Apparatus*. This is further to the granting of a similar patent in the USA which the Company announced back on 4 October 2012. The new patent covers a method of tagging and sterilising items using a device based on MEMS (Micro Electro Mechanical Systems) or micro technology and is for items which have to undergo exposure to ionising radiation in non-sterile environments.

A MEMS-based mechanical device provides an opportunity to overcome limitations of assigning unique serial numbers using barcodes, electronic RFID and other methods such as etching. The invention covers items used for satellites, spacecraft, aircraft and other industrial items that typically undergo physical sterilisation during inspection and/or operation. Bluechiip's tagging system allows such items to be identified in a non-line-of-sight manner and without human intervention. It may therefore facilitate automated item management and tracking of specialised parts that are routinely inspected using ionising radiating.

Dr Jason Chaffey, CTO of Bluechiip Limited, said: "This patent underlines the platform nature of Bluechiip's technology. Whilst our technology is initially being used in the biobanking industry to track high value and often irreplaceable biospecimens such as stem cells, tissue and blood, it has a broad range of market applications, otherwise referred to as being a 'platform technology'. The tracking of items subject to ionising radiation in a non-sterile environment is an additional market vertical to which the bluechiip® technology is applicable."

Bluechiip now has a portfolio of 15 patents over seven patent families, including seven granted in USA and Europe. All intellectual property is wholly owned by Bluechiip Limited.

#### **For more information:**

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#### **About Bluechiip Limited:**

Bluechiip has developed a wireless tracking technology for the healthcare and life science, security, defence and manufacturing industries which represents a generational change from current methods such as labels (hand-written and pre-printed), barcodes (linear and 2D) and microelectronic integrated circuit (IC)-based RFID (Radio Frequency Identification).

The unique tag is based on MEMS technology and contains no electronics. The tag can either be embedded or manufactured into a storage product, such as vials or bags. Easy identification, along with any associated information from the tag such as temperature can be detected by a reader, which can also sense the temperature of the tagged items. The traditional identification technologies have significant limitations. Whereas a barcode requires a visible tag or line-of-sight optical scan, bluechiip® technology does not. Unlike labels, barcodes and RFID, the bluechiip® technology can sense the temperature of each item a tag is attached to, or embedded in.

The bluechiip® technology has initial applications in the healthcare industry particularly those businesses which require cryogenic storage facilities (biobanks and biorepositories). bluechiip® offers the only technology that



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enables accurate and reliable tracking of products including stem cells, cord blood, and other biospecimens. In addition to functioning in extreme temperatures, the bluechiip<sup>®</sup> tracking technology can survive autoclaving, gamma irradiation sterilisation, humidification, centrifuging, cryogenic storage and frosting.

The bluechiip<sup>®</sup> technology has other healthcare applications in pathology, clinical trials and forensics. Several other key markets outside of healthcare include cold-chain logistics/supply chain, security/defence, industrial/manufacturing and aerospace/aviation.

Further information is available at [www.bluechiip.com](http://www.bluechiip.com).